IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

AUER ET AL.

APPLICATION NO:

FILED:

FOR: FLUORESCENT DYES (AIDA) FOR SOLID PHASE AND SOLUTION

PHASE SCREENING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the Title, insert: \ Nav US. Patent 6,207,831, filed is a division of a -- This is a division of Ser. No. 09/217,795, December 21, 1998, pending: --

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporation Patent and Trademark Dept. 564 Morris Avenue Summit, NJ 07901-1027

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Gabriel Lopez **Attorney for Applicants**

Reg. No. 28,440 (908) 522-6933